The Book Cellar is open year-round during library hours. Donations of gently used books from all genres are accepted at the front desk, then sorted and shelved by our volunteers. Our books are not “sold” at a set price, but rather made available for a donation according to the perceived value to the patron. We encourage residents as well as visitors to donate their used books to the Book Cellar for the mutual benefit of the Library and our community. Be sure to stop by frequently, as the inventory is constantly changing.

Name(s):__________________________________________
__________________________________________
Address:__________________________________________
City:__________________________________________
State:_______ ZIP:____________________
Phone:__________________________________________
Email:__________________________________________

Family/Single Annual Membership Dues: $5

Additional donations welcome!

Please make checks payable to:
Friends of the Elk Rapids District Library
P.O. Box 337
Elk Rapids, MI 49629

The Friends of the Elk Rapids District Library is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and donations to it are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Friends of the Elk Rapids District Library
P.O. Box 337
300 Isle of Pines
Elk Rapids, MI 49629

www.elkrapidslibrary.org/friends-of-the-library
OUR ROOTS…

The actual origins of the Friends of the Elk Rapids District Library are unknown to present-day members. Suffice to say, the present-day Friends are the result of a gentle evolution. What IS known is the spirit of volunteerism that has supported our library since the late 20th century.

In early years, “friends” assumed many roles now carried out by staff as library systems, regulations and operations have become more complex. Prior to the enclosure of the beloved porch in 1997, volunteers held an annual used-book sale in that space—often with a bake sale as an additional attraction.

Soon after, the library’s “Michigan basement” was enclosed and books began being shelved there in preparation for the annual sale. At some point, the annual sale was dropped in favor of an ongoing event with volunteers pricing each donated book for resale.

A cadre of supporters in 2002 began holding tennis tournaments with the proceeds augmenting annual revenues from book sales, and, in turn, the Friends’ annual gift to support library operations. The group formalized, elected officers, and became more intentional about having a significant impact on library improvements. Finally, in 2015, the Friends refined their mission, developed bylaws, and became a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization recognized by the IRS and the State of Michigan. Operation of the Book Cellar became our major fundraiser as well as a great community service.

As you can see, we are a relatively young organization. But we are focused, determined, and eager to do what we can to make the Elk Rapids District Library a special asset to the communities we serve. We welcome the energy that YOU can bring to our efforts!

OUR MISSION…

In the spirit of collaboration and service, the dedicated volunteers of the Friends of the Elk Rapids District Library are committed to enhance and enrich the Elk Rapids District Library.

OUR VOLUNTEERS…

Board of Directors
Committee members—
Fundraising/Publicity/Membership
Book Cellar Staff
Special Events Support

OUR ACTIVITIES…

Sharing your volunteer time, your treasure, or your talent offers the opportunity to become an active member of the Friends. Here is a sample of the ways the Friends have worked to enhance this great community resource:

Fundraising
• Annual art raffle (2016, 2017)
• Cooking demonstration class (2017)
• Book Cellar proceeds
• Sales of logo book bags, note cards
• Tea and Talk with an author (planned, 2018)
• Tennis tournaments—2002-2004

Provide Funds to the Library
• Summer Reading Program
• Baffling Bill the Magician, free community event
• Author presentations
• Special programs for area children
• Technology improvements
• Early Learning Program hardware, software
• CoLibri Book Covering Machine
• Capital improvements - staff work area, porch

Promote the Library in the Community
• Harbor Days Parade marchers
• Harbor Days Princesses and Knights childrens’ event
• Evening on River Street booth
• Elk Rapids Women’s Organization Fair (2017)
• Elk Rapids Chamber of Commerce membership